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GLENDALE CITY COUNCIL APPROVES TO FILE AN APPEAL

GLENDALE, Ariz. -- The Glendale City Council approved tonight to file an appeal with the Arizona Supreme Court in order to overturn a lower court decision that failed to acknowledge a portion of land owned by the Tohono O'dham Nation falls within the city's boundaries due to annexation proceedings dating back to 2001.

The appeal, expected to be filed this week, is one of two court cases in which the city seeks to block having land at 91st and Northern avenues turned into a reservation, where the Tohono O'dham tribe intends to build a Las Vegas style casino. The case being taken to Arizona's Supreme Court involves the annexation of 46 acres of the 135-acre parcel secretly purchased by the tribe more than 100 miles from its ancestral lands for the purpose of gaming. In order to build a casino on the land, the tribe must have it declared a reservation by the U.S. Department of Interior.

Glendale, backed by an earlier court decision, contends the 46 acres had been annexed by the city, and is, therefore, ineligible to be taken into trust as tribal land. Those 46 acres are near Raymond S. Kellis High School. The Arizona Supreme Court will render the final opinion on whether that land had previously been annexed by Glendale and falls within its city boundaries.

Creating a reservation is fiercely opposed by Arizona's U.S. Senators, U.S. Congressmen representing the area, the Arizona Legislature, Arizona governor,



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and Arizona attorney general. The Arizona Department of Gaming and nine other Arizona tribes have also openly opposed the Tohono O'dham's casino plans.

For more information, visit www.glendaleaz.com/indianreservation.